

The Budget—Mr. Michaud

supporters of the C.C.F. party think for one moment I am going to stand by—

An hon. Member: That is two-faced.

Mr. MacInnis: —and allow this type of sniping to continue? Somebody mentions "two-faced". Well, in another assembly I would use much stronger words. I have used much stronger words in referring to this same man. I do not intend at any time to stand back and watch this type of thing continue while I, along with other representatives from Nova Scotia, am doing everything possible to promote the welfare of the miners in Nova Scotia. At the same time I appear with these people to make such representations to the government as they care to make. This man goes home and tells the people, through the press or at meetings, that the millions of dollars handed out by the federal government are not the answer, yet that is the very thing federal representatives from Nova Scotia, provincial members and executives of the union have requested from this government and the very thing this government has provided.

I should like to ask the hon. member for Essex East and other interested members to go before their constituents and inform them that for less than a dollar a year each they can save the miners in Nova Scotia.

Mr. Speaker: Before I leave the chair, may I ask the hon. member if he has completed his remarks?

Mr. MacInnis: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. H. J. Michaud (Kent, N.B.): Mr. Speaker, as the first member from New Brunswick to speak from this side of the house in the budget debate I should like to offer my congratulations to the Minister of Forestry (Mr. Flemming) on his appointment to the cabinet and election to this house. The people of New Brunswick will expect him here in Ottawa to put forward with the same vigour the claims of the maritime provinces about which he spoke so frequently in his previous position.

It is with a certain amount of amazement that I have noticed in the course of this debate the great interest that all members on the government side of the house have expressed in the Liberal rally which took place here in Ottawa a few days ago. In his contribution to this matter before the supper hour the hon. member for Cape Breton South

[Mr. MacInnis.]

(Mr. MacInnis), like the rest of the government members who spoke on this matter, seemed to be obsessed with the success of that rally.

Obviously the hon. member could not have been reading the extensive reports on that rally given by the *Halifax Chronicle-Herald* during that time, or he would have found out for himself that the Atlantic provinces did receive a great deal of attention during the rally. He would have seen that we had a special committee on that special subject and that recommendations were made at that time in reference to highways, capital grants, the coal situation and the Chignecto canal.

If all those recommendations had been acted upon by the present government before this time we would now be in a happier situation in the maritimes and the people would not be as short of work as they are. Of course, we on this side of the house are very grateful for this publicity given to a very successful rally which at the time was hailed by every medium of publicity in the country. This conduct on the part of government members is but a sequence to a previous attempt made to dampen the interest aroused by that event. Indeed, we had all noticed with what a flourish a host of cabinet ministers scattered all over the country and strived to divert the attention of the Canadian people during the days that rally was held.

There is one evident conclusion to be drawn from these aroused feelings of the government members and ministers. If only they would show the same eagerness and spend the same amount of time trying to find a solution to the many pressing problems which now exist in the country, such as the grave unemployment problem, for instance, as they did trying to belittle that rally, they might well avoid some of the wrath which is mounting against this government at the present time.

The debate which is now under way deals with the supplementary budget presented to the house by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fleming) on December 20 last. Some of the measures contained in this budget have been described as good in as much as they are designed to solve the alarming unemployment situation which now exists. But these good measures are all long term measures and are in no way designed to bring any immediate relief to this problem. This leaves one to wonder, therefore, what are the immediate views of the government on this matter of general unemployment.

Of course we know that the government dislikes to be reminded that such a situation exists. Ever since they assumed office, at which time unemployment started to increase,